

Dear Sir CXXIV.

Washington Dec. 19. 83

The post of last night brings us agreeable information from N.  
Orleans & Natchez. Gen<sup>r</sup>. Wilkinson arrived at N. Orleans from Mobile  
Nov. 25. settled immediately with Laufat all the circumstances of the  
delivery, & proceeded next day to Fort Adams, where he vowed arrive  
on the 30<sup>th</sup>. & expect to meet Claiborne there ready for embarkation.  
on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Laufat demanded possession of the Spanish officers who im-  
mediately agreed to deliver <sup>the place</sup> on the next day (30<sup>th</sup>) at noon, & every thing  
was arranged for that purpose. Laufat meant to garrison the forts  
with mil<sup>tia</sup>, & to appoint a person to every office w<sup>t</sup> U. military to take  
the place of the Spanish & canments. in all this he acted in concert w<sup>t</sup>  
Clarke, mixing many Americans in the offices, & giving the command of the  
militia to a friend of Clarke's. Claiborne embarked 100 militia Dec.,  
<sup>from Natchez</sup> for Fort Adams, & set out Dec. 2. by land for the same place, expecting to  
fall in w<sup>t</sup> & carry on to that place 80. militia more. he vowed find  
Wilkinson there with all the regulars ready for embarkation, which  
probably took place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>. & they would arrive at N. Orleans the  
6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup>. if on the 6<sup>th</sup> we shall hear of it Christmas night; if not till the  
7<sup>th</sup> we shall not hear it till the night of New-year's day. The Marquis  
of Casa Calva had ordered the barracks to be got ready to receive & accom-  
modate our troops, and proposed to embark all his own, the moment he  
had delivered the place, on board an armed vessel then lying ready to  
receive them: so that they will be gone before the arrival of our troops.  
Laufat would hold the government about a week. This is for  
yourself & Mr. Eggers. my tender love to my dear Martha & Maria,  
and all the young ones, & affectionate salutations to yourself  
& Mr. Eggers.

H. J. T. S.

Mr. Tolpah.